IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please conform the Specification to U.S. patent practice by entering the following amendments.

1. On page 1, after the title of the invention and before paragraph [0001], please add the following headings and information: --

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not applicable.

INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON COMPACT DISC

Not applicable.

REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX"

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

- (1) Field Of The Invention
- 2. On page 1, please modify paragraph [0001] as follows: --
- [0001] The invention concerns a water filter cartridge according to the preamble of Claim 1 for treating drinking water in beverage machines or drinking water devices with a replaceable control unit to monitor the condition of the water filter cartridge. More particularly the invention pertains to a control unit having a sensor unit with at least one conductance sensor.
- 3. On page 1, before paragraph [0002] please add the following heading: --
 - (2) Description Of Related Art Including Information
 Disclosed Under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. --

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4. On page 2, before paragraph [0008], please add the heading: --

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --.

5. On page 2, please amend paragraph [0008] to read: --

[0008] Therefore, this invention has the task of proposing providing a water filter cartridge of the type mentioned at the beginning which allows reliable monitoring of the condition of the water filter cartridge. --

6. On page 2, please amend paragraph [0009] to read: --

[0009] This task is solved by a water filter cartridge having the features of Claim 1 a replaceable control unit to monitor the condition of the water filter cartridge in which the control unit includes a sensor unit with at least one conductance sensor. --

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7. On page 2, please amend paragraph [0010] to read: --

The measures mentioned in the subordinate claims enable [0010] advantageous embodiments and further developments of the invention include measuring the conductivity of the filtered water with the conductance sensor, having sensor elements (13) that project into the housing (2) of the filter cartridge (1), having at least one passage and/or at least one break point for one or more sensors to go through, providing a conductance sensor (19) for measuring the quality of the unfiltered water, providing an electronic evaluation unit (19), utilizing the electronic evaluation unit (19) to account for the difference between at least two conductance values in performing its evaluation, providing a temperature sensor (15), providing a timing element, providing a display (16) to display the condition of the water filter cartridge (1), providing fastening elements (12) to fasten a sensing unit (11) to a filter cartridge (1), providing at least one of the fastening elements as catches and constructing a beverage machine or drinking water device with a water filter cartridge (1) in accordance with the invention. --

8. On page 6 before paragraph [0029] please add the heading: --

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S)

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9. On page 6 please amend paragraph [0029] to read:: --

[0029] The single figure, Fig. 1, is a schematic illustration of the structure of a possible embodiment of the invention. --

10. On page 6 before paragraph [0030] please add the heading: --

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION INCLUDING BEST MODE

11. On page 7 please amend paragraph [0034] to read: --

[0034] Sensor unit 11 also has a display 16, a pushbutton 17, and a battery 18. The central evaluation electronics 19 is only indicated in the schematic illustration shown in the figure. --